

DATE

TRANSMITTAL SLIP

TO:

D/OL

ROOM NO.

BUILDING

STAT 2B07

REMARKS:

ADIL

EO

~~Cy to all Groups - Staff?
 done~~

~~yes~~

Registry - file

FROM:

OMS/SD

ROOM NO.

BUILDING

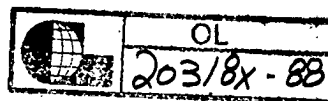
EXTENSION

STAT 3N37

FORM NO.

REPLACES FORM 36-8

(47)



EOS

5 October 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: C/SE/SS/DO

FROM:

Chief, Safety Division
Office of Medical Services

SUBJECT: Use of Prisco Red Magic In Agency Offices

REFERENCE: Memo to C/SE/PERS & C/SE/SEC from SE/XO & SE/XNE; dated 6 September 1988; Subject: Elimination of Hazardous Materials in All Offices

1. The Safety Division, Office of Medical Services, in 1984 concurred in the Agency-wide use of Prisco Red Magic as a platen cleaner/conditioner in all non-vaulted areas to clean platens as mandated by the Office of Security (OS). Numerous products were studied by the two offices in determining a product capable of cleaning the platens in accordance with OS requirements and also capable of being handled and stored safely within Agency facilities. Prisco Red Magic was chosen as the result of these detailed tests and evaluations as it also reconditioned the platens.

2. If OS elects to introduce a new product for the purpose of platen cleaning, the Safety Division, at that time, will complete an evaluation of that product.

3. The use of Prisco Red Magic in Agency offices has generated complaints from employees. These complaints have included both eye and skin irritation, basically from poor ventilation and misapplication of the product on the platen. Air monitoring conducted during numerous applications has demonstrated that Prisco may be used and handled by personnel in a safe manner without chronic or acute adverse health effects. Air monitoring for hydrocarbons indicate that concentrations are below detectable levels.

5. Prisco is a Class II combustible liquid with a flash point of 134°F and that which is not required for routine maintenance must be stored in accordance with NFPA Code 30,

paragraph 4-3.1; i.e., if outside of an approved flammable liquid storage cabinet, not more than 60 gallons in a cabinet, not more than three cabinets in a single fire area and separated from combustible materials. Halon, CO₂, dry chemical and foam are the acceptable fire extinguishers with halon recommended. Contact FMD/OL if one is not available.

6. The precautionary label on the 1 pint can of Prisco is provided by the manufacturer in accordance with OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1200, The Hazard Communication Standard. These statements are for the handlers'/users' information and includes applicable precautions for safe handling which are known to the manufacturer, including appropriate hygienic practices, protective measures, procedures for clean-up of spills and leaks, and emergency/first aid procedures. The current Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) on this product is attached for your information.

7. Prisco Red Magic is a popular platen cleaner on the market today, and does not necessarily constitute an increased health/accident hazard. If OS evaluates the suggested Lee Clean-A-Platen and determines that the product satisfactory meets their requirements, Safety Division can evaluate the product. Offering a new product will not eliminate complaints and concerns from employees about poor ventilation or eye/skin irritation.

8. If additional information is needed, contact
 Acting Chief, Environmental and Occupational Health Branch, Safety Division, Office of Medical Services, at extension

Attachment:
As stated

cc: C/SE
D/OMS
D/OS
D/OL

STAT
STAT
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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

7 September 1988

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

C/SE

8 Sep 88

2.

C/SE

3.

D/OMS

3 SEP 1988

4.

D/OS

5.

D/OL

6.

7.

DC/SD/OMS

9/16

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

For 3 and 4: I am very interested in this matter and would appreciate hearing your conclusions and recommendations.

C/SE Division

MK - By 9/23
Return evaluation to C/SE/SD with copies to all

S E C R E T

6 Sept 1988

25X1 MEMORANDUM FOR: C/SE [REDACTED]
C/SE [REDACTED]

INFO: C/SE [REDACTED]
C/SE [REDACTED]
C/SE [REDACTED]

25X1 FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Elimination of Hazardous Material in all
Offices

25X1 ACTION REQUESTED: That C/SE [REDACTED] and C/SE [REDACTED] working through
25X1 C/SE [REDACTED] take the necessary steps to equip all SE offices with Lee
Clean-A-Platen vice Prisco Red Magic Blanket Conditioner which is
currently being used and to follow through with the DA/LOGS to
suggest that the replacement material be used Agency-wide.

25X1 1. The Office of Security has mandated that all computer
platens/typewriter platens in non-vaulted areas be cleaned daily with
a product called "Prisco Red Magic Blanket Conditioner" or removed
and stored overnight in a safe. The SE [REDACTED] has
pointed out that daily removal of the cable printer platens will
result in eventual mechanical dysfunction. In addition, the required
cleaning agent has a very offensive odor. However, the odor problem
is secondary to the potential danger in using this product in the
workspace. In reading the label on the product the following
warnings are noted:

- COMBUSTIBLE LIQUID. KEEP AWAY FROM HEAT. USE WITH
ADEQUATE VENTILATION. AVOID PROLONGED BREATHING OF VAPOR. AVOID
PROLONGED OR REPEATED SKIN CONTACT.

- WEAR SAFETY GLASSES AND RESISTANT GLOVES. IN CASE OF
FIRE USE FOAM, CO₂, DRY CHEMICAL.

- IF AFFECTED BY VAPORS: MOVE TO FRESH AIR. IF BREATHING
HAS STOPPED, APPLY ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

2. Given the above warnings, it is apparent that Red Magic is dangerous to use. It is a product that is manufactured for "industrial use only". Per manufacturer's user instructions and OSHA requirements for using such a substance safely, all users should be issued industrial safety glasses, resistant gloves, and a dry chemical fire extinguisher.

3. The user is probably at the greatest risk. The flimsy gloves issued harden and crack after 3 - 4 applications, thus exposing skin to the cleaner. Should the user get any of the liquid in his/her eyes (which could easily happen) first aid instructions per manufacturer are: "Immediately flush with water for at least 15 minutes while lifting upper and lower eyelids. Get medical attention." Since safety glasses are not issued and no eyewash showers are available, an extremely debilitating and costly accident could very easily occur. Any substance hazardous to the eye can only be safely used where an eyewash shower is readily available.

4. Using such a combustible substance around so much electrical equipment (wangs, typewriters, printers) poses a threat should some equipment short-out and throw a spark. We could have an explosion, fire and probable injuries. Considering that not every office is equipped with a fire extinguisher, this constitutes a risk.

5. The unknown is quite scary. With all of the precautions that are listed, one begins to wonder more about the long-term inhalation of the vapors produced by this product. One of the undersigned experiences eye irritation when using the product. What about the affect on the users' lungs? Few of the offices using this substance have adequate ventilation; thus, there is a potential inhalation problem. We wonder, also, whether or not the ingredients of this product are carcinogenic in nature and what the long-term effect will be for the user.

6. The undersigned have researched this subject and recommend "Lee Clean-A-Platen" as an alternative. This product contains isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol) and glycol acetates and the product label states that it may irritate eyes - avoid contact. However, this product is not a liquid. It is much easier to use, the danger of spillage is nil and there is no way at all that the product can splash in one's eyes. The product is enclosed in plastic, no vapors are released by virtue of saturated cleaning rags and the 50 small presaturated pads are contained in the small plastic container. It is combustible but in order for combustion to happen, the spark would have to fall inside of the closed container. Not only is this product much safer, it is much cheaper and is made to be used in the office.

S E C R E T

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7. The following compares estimated annual cost per office of the two cleaning products:

Red Magic

\$48.00 (calculated at \$4.85/pint - minimum of 10 pints/yr.)
10.00 Cheesecloth (calculated at \$2.25/pkg - minimum 5/yr.)
4.00 Safety Glasses
4.00 Resistent Gloves
12.00 Fire Extinguisher (cost and maintenance)

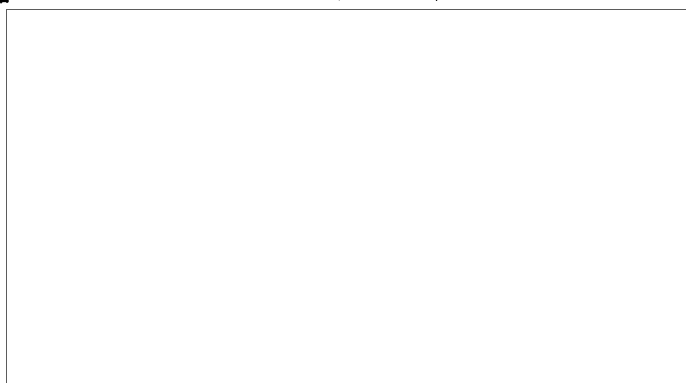
\$78.00

Clean-A-Platen

\$15.00 (calculated at \$1.50/container - minimum of 10 cont./yr)

These estimates reflect a savings of \$63.00 per office per year. \$63.00 times the number of offices in this building is a considerable dollar savings annually.

8. To summarize, continued use of Prisco Red Magic constitutes a health/accident hazard that could easily be eliminated by the use of a safer, cheaper alternative. Lee Clean-A-Platen has been used in the offices of [redacted] for 2 weeks with excellent results, and it meets the requirements of [redacted] Agency-wide adoption of this new cleaner is strongly recommended.



S E C R E T

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Next 3 Page(s) In Document Denied